

About the Trainers

Valerie Sedivy, Ph.D. — Program Manager Healthy Teen Network

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Valerie provides training and technical assistance along with program evaluation in her role as Program Manager for Healthy Teen Network. She has more than 20 years experience working in adolescent reproductive health. Her early work involved clinic-based counseling and education as well as the design and delivery of sexuality education programs for teens. While earning a Ph.D. in Population and Family Health from the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, specializing in reproductive health and family planning, she designed and implemented numerous research studies of teen pregnancy prevention programs provided in a variety of settings, such as clinics, schools, and community-based organizations.

Valerie has also worked as an evaluator and program manager for a cancer foundation in Australia, coordinating research studies in tobacco control and designing a research funding program.

Janet Max

Director of Education and Outreach Healthy Teen Network

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Janet Max is the Director of Education and Outreach for Healthy Teen Network, a national membership organization dedicated to making a difference in the lives of young people and their families by providing education and resources to youth-serving professionals. In this role, Ms. Max oversees all training, technical assistance and resource development for Healthy Teen Network. In addition to managing several on-going projects, Ms. Max has authored a number of reports, including an advocacy resource guide "Addressing HIV/AIDS among Youth" and the report "Promoting Successful Transition from Foster/Group Home Settings to Independent Living among Pregnant and Parenting Teens." Based on original research, this report discusses the difficulties facing pregnant or parenting teenagers in foster care/group settings and the policy that surrounds it. Ms. Max is a known presenter for national, state and local groups and can speak on topics ranging from adolescent development to supportive housing programs for pregnant and parenting teens.

Prior to coming to Healthy Teen Network Ms. Max worked as an health educator at New York University's Health Promotion Office and for Planned Parenthood, NYC. Ms. Max is a Certified Health Education Specialist and holds a Master of Public Health from New York University and a BA in Psychology from Tulane University.